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# Conference Report Highlights

May 18, 1999

## Highlights to the Conference Report on H.R. 1141, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, FY 99

*This \$15 billion agreement (which includes about \$2 billion in offsets) includes funds to support U.S. troops in Kosovo and general defense readiness, aid to U.S. farmers, and disaster relief for tornado victims in the Midwest and hurricane and earthquake victims in Central and South America. The Senate passed its original supplemental bill, S. 544, on March 23 (providing \$1.9 billion, fully offset). The House passed H.R. 1141 on March 24, and on May 6 passed its emergency Kosovo funding bill, H.R. 1664; provisions from that bill are contained in this conference report.*

The conference report for H.R. 1141, the \$15 billion emergency supplemental funding bill, provides about \$11 billion for defense and some \$1 billion for refugee assistance. The conferees also agreed to provide \$574 million in assistance to farm families and \$983 million for relief to Central America for hurricane victims and for earthquake victims in Colombia. The conference report provides offsets of nearly \$2 billion, of which \$1.25 billion comes from surplus food-stamp funds which would not be spent before the end of the fiscal year. [See attached chart.]

### Kosovo Support

Conferees provide total funding of \$12 billion for defense needs and humanitarian relief.

#### Defense:

The conference agreement provides \$10.9 billion for defense costs (compared to the President's request of \$5.5 billion) for ongoing contingency operations in Kosovo and Southwest Asia, as well as for other high-priority military readiness matters, including:

- \$5.44 billion for the overseas contingency operations transfer fund;
- \$2.25 billion for high priority operations and maintenance enhancements, including spare parts, depot maintenance, and readiness training (not requested by the President);
- \$1.84 billion for military pay and retirement, subject to authorization;

- \$475 million for military construction of mission, readiness and force protection items related to contingencies. The Secretary of Defense is given the authority to determine the individual items;
- \$300 million for the Operational Rapid Response Transfer Fund (not requested by the President);
- \$200 million for Coast Guard pay, and for operations and maintenance (not requested by the President); and
- \$100 million for recruiting programs (not requested by the President).

#### **Kosovo-Related Humanitarian Assistance:**

Conferees provide a total of \$1.068 billion (compared to the President's request of \$566 million). In addition to \$149 million in food assistance from the P.L. 480 program, the conferees provide \$819 million for refugee assistance, a \$253 million increase over the President's request. An additional \$100 million was requested for temporary resettlement of Kosovar Albanians in the United States. These funds are allocated to the Foreign Operations, Agriculture and Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittees as follows:

- \$163 million for AID international disaster assistance, \$92 million more than requested;
- \$105 million for the Economic Support Fund (same as requested) to provide up to \$100 million for direct assistance to Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Romania, Macedonia and Montenegro. Although the Administration requested \$5 million is to be used to document war crimes and atrocities committed in Kosovo, the conference managers strongly recommend that up to an additional \$13 million be made available to meet the full request of the War Crimes Tribunal;
- \$120 million for assistance for Eastern Europe and Baltic States hosting refugees (\$50 million below the request);
- \$266 million for the migration and refugee assistance account (\$141 million more than requested); and
- \$165 million for the U.S. emergency refugee and migration assistance fund (\$70 million more than requested).
- \$149 million for the P.L. 480 food assistance program to benefit the refugees in the Balkans (not requested); and
- \$100 million for temporary resettlement of displaced Kosovar Albanians in the U.S. (requested by the Department of Health and Human Services).

#### **Agriculture Assistance**

Conferees provide a total of \$574 million in assistance (\$422 million more than the President's request), including loan guarantee money for U.S. farm families. With cash receipts from crops projected to decline by \$3 billion below last year, the Conferees concluded that the President's request of \$152 million was insufficient to assist all of the farmers who have been hard hit by falling commodity prices.

- \$20 million for emergency grants for low-income migrant and seasonal workers;

- \$145 million to the Agricultural Marketing Service for strengthening markets, income, and supply;
- \$43 million for the Farm Service Agency for salaries and expenses;
- \$110 million for the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program;
- \$28 million for the emergency conservation program;
- \$3 million for the livestock indemnity program;
- \$95 million for the watershed and flood prevention program;
- \$30 million for the rural community advancement program; and
- \$3 million for the Rural Housing Service, of which \$2 million is for the housing insurance fund and \$1 million is for housing repair resulting from natural disasters.

## **Central America and Caribbean Aid**

Conferees provide a total of \$983 million for disaster assistance for hurricane and earthquake victim assistance in Central and South America and the Caribbean (\$956 million requested). Of this total, \$621 million is for the Central America and the Caribbean Emergency Disaster Recovery Fund, and \$216 million goes to DoD for operation and maintenance costs associated with hurricane relief efforts.

## **Wye Accord**

The conference agreement provides a total of \$100 million for the Wye Accord for continued support of Jordan.

## **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

Conferees provide \$900 million to FEMA (\$373 million requested by the President) for disaster relief, including funds to assist the victims of tornadoes in Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, and Tennessee. Another \$230 million is transferred from HUD's Community Development Block Grant program to FEMA for disaster assistance for unmet needs.

## **Non-Emergency Spending Items**

The conference report contains about \$218 million in non-emergency spending, all of which are offset. Items include:

- \$45 million for unanticipated costs associated with FY99 Census funding;
- \$31.4 million for Department of Defense facilities (military construction) for storm-related damage to facilities and family housing improvements;
- \$30.7 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for FY 1999 (and \$17.3 million in advance appropriations for FY 2000). The Public Radio Satellite System failed last year and a temporary back-up satellite will be unavailable later this year; thus, contractual arrangements need to be made with a satellite vendor to ensure continuity of services;
- \$29 million for payment to the Postal Service Fund;
- \$26 million for Glacier Bay;

- \$21.8 million for the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians;
- \$3.76 million for renovation to the House page dormitory;
- \$3 million for the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom;
- \$2.5 million for High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) critical drug reduction efforts;
- \$1.8 million for safety renovations to the O'Neill House Office Building;
- \$1.5 million for the University of the District of Columbia pursuant to its recent designation as a Historically Black College;
- \$1.3 million for the World Trade Organization ministerial meeting in Seattle; and
- Transfers \$230 million from HUD to FEMA (as noted above under FEMA heading) for "unmet needs" associated with natural disasters.

## **Major Legislative Provisions**

- Provides that all FY99 funding for the Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill can now flow for the remainder of the fiscal year (thus rescinding the June 15, 1999 funding restriction).
- Allows states to keep all funds recouped from tobacco settlements and assures flexibility for use of funds.
- Extends the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and War Risk Insurance Program through August 6, 1999 and provides the Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority with an additional \$30 million in obligational authority.
- Extends the moratorium on issuing a final rulemaking on crude oil valuation until October 1, 1999.
- Restricts the issuance of a final rule on hardrock mining on Federal lands.
- Directs the President to seek more equitable burden-sharing for military and humanitarian costs among NATO and other countries and requires the President to report to Congress on the findings by September 30, 1999.
- Makes the taking of a Cook Inlet beluga whale a violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act unless such a taking occurs pursuant to a cooperative agreement between the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Cook Inlet Marine Mammal Council.
- Authorizes the use of funds from the Crime Victims Fund for the families of victims of Pan Am 103, so they may attend the trial in the Netherlands for the bombing trial.
- Deletes the cap on lending authority of the National Credit Union Administration Central Liquidity Fund.
- Allows the Attorney General to transfer up to \$4.3 million from available funds to pay the remaining claims for restitution for Japanese Americans and Japanese South Americans required by the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

## Offsets

- \$1.25 billion from excess balances within the Food Stamp program. This will have no effect on beneficiaries of the program. Decreased participation is due to the improved economy and lower unemployment.
- \$350 million from unspent balances within the Section 8 Housing Program.
- \$230 million from Community Development Block Grants disaster relief funds. Identical amount was transferred to FEMA for unmet disaster needs.
- \$50 million from international accounts (Global Environment Facility, USIA, and the Economic Support Fund).
- \$31 million from military construction accounts.
- \$22.5 million from Agricultural Research Service.
- \$22.4 million from the Labor Department's Contingency Fund for Unemployment Insurance Administration.
- \$10 million from unanticipated needs for natural disasters.
- \$6.8 million from the Bureau of Land Management.
- \$6.5 million from State infrastructure banks (FHWA).
- \$6.5 million from Education, Research, Statistics and Improvement.
- \$4.5 million from Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.
- \$2.8 million from the Health Resources Services Administration Federal Capital Loan Program for nursing.
- \$815,000 from payments to air carriers (Transportation).
- \$665,000 from trust fund share of transit programs (FTA).
- \$600,000 from interstate transfer grants-transit (FTA).

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[Attachment: chart]

**H.R. 1141 Conference Report**  
(dollars, in millions) (totals may not add due to rounding)

Budget Authority		
	Request	Conference agreement
<b>Kosovo/Southwest Asia</b>		
<b>Defense</b>		
Military personnel	16	16
Overseas contingency operations transfer fund	5,442	5,442
Procurement	0	300
Personnel pay	0	1,838
Operations & maintenance	0	2,250
Recruiting	0	100
Replacement of expended munitions	0	250
Coast Guard, O&M/pay	0	200
Subtotal	5,458	10,396
<b>Commerce-Justice</b>		
State department activities	25	71
<b>Foreign Operations</b>		
AID international disaster assistance	71	163
Economic support fund	105	105
Assistance for Eastern Europe & Baltic States	170	120
Migration & refugee assistance	125	266
U.S. emergency refugee & migration assistance	95	165
Subtotal	566	819
Military Construction	0	475
HHS refugee and entrant assistance	0	100
P.L. 480	0	149
<b>Subtotal, Kosovo/Southwest Asia</b>	<b>6,049</b>	<b>12,010</b>

<b>Other Emergency Items</b>		
<b>Agriculture</b>		
Emergency grants low-income migrant and seasonal workers	0	20
Farm Service Agency salaries and expenses	43	43
Agricultural credit insurance fund	110	110
Emergency conservation program	0	28
Livestock disaster program	0	70
Livestock indemnity program	0	3
Watershed and flood operations	0	95
Rural housing insurance fund	0	2
Rural housing assistance grants	0	1
Rural community advancement program	0	30
CCC conservation technical assistance	0	28
Funds for strengthening markets (sec. 32)	0	145
<b>Total, Agriculture</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>574</b>
<b>Wye Accord: (ESF &amp; foreign military financing for Jordan)</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Total, Wye Accord</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Central America &amp; Caribbean</b>		
Economic support fund	621	621
Multilateral assistance debt restructuring	41	41
AID international disaster assistance	25	25
DoD O&M disaster relief transfer fund:	189	216
INS salaries & expenses.	80	80
<b>Total, Central America &amp; Caribbean</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>983</b>
<b>Interior</b>		
USFWS construction	0	13
FS reconstruction & construction	0	6

Holocaust memorial council	0	2
<b>Foreign Operations</b>		
Int'l narcotics control and law enforcement	0	23
Economic support fund	0	7
International affairs technical assistance	0	2
<b>VA-HUD</b>		
FEMA disaster assistance	0	230
FEMA disaster relief	373	900
<b>Non-Emergency Items</b>		
<b>Commerce-Justice</b>		
NOAA	5	2
Census	0	45
WTO	0	1
Supreme Court salaries and expenses (non-emergency) *The Administration request was for emergency spending:	1*	1
<b>Energy &amp; Water Dev.:</b> Bur. of Reclamation water and related resources	0	2
<b>Foreign Ops.: U.S. Commission on Religious Freedom</b>	0	3
<b>Interior</b>		
Office of special trustee for American Indians	7	22
Glacier Bay	0	26
<b>Labor-HHS-Ed</b>		
HHS departmental management	0	1
Corp. for Public Broadcasting	11	31
(Advance appropriation)	[37]	[17]
Ed. for disadvantaged (advance appropriation)	0	[56]



<b>Legislative Branch</b>	0	6
<b>Military Construction</b>		
Military Construction, Army National Guard	0	6
Ellsworth AFB	0	8
Family housing, Army	0	25
<b>Treasury-General Government</b>		
High intensity drug trafficking areas	0	3
GSA	0	2
Payment to the postal service fund.	29	29
ATF	0	5
<b>Transportation: National Transportation Safety Board</b>	0	2
<b>RECAPITULATION</b>		
<b>Supplementals:</b>		
Advances	37	73
Emergency	8,430	14,848
Non-emergency	52	218
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>8,519</b>	<b>15,139</b>
<b>Offsets:</b>		
Emergency	-882	-252
Non-emergency	-41	-126
Mandatory	0	-1,250
Section 8 housing (deferral)	0	-350
Global environmental facility (GEF)	0	-25
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>-923</b>	<b>-1,995</b>
<b>Net bill</b>	<b>7,596</b>	<b>13,143</b>